

- Fig. 7. *Scolopendra* (?) *cuivis*, sp. n. Nat. size.  
 Fig. 8. *Cormocephalus cupipes*, sp. n. Anal somite, upperside.  
 Fig. 9. *Cormocephalus inermipes*, sp. n. Anal leg, from above.  
 Fig. 9 a. Ditto. Prosternal plates.  
 Fig. 10. *Cormocephalus dentipes*, sp. n. Anal leg, internal view.

## PLATE V.

- Fig. 1. *Arthrorhabdus formosus*, gen. et sp. nov. Head, dorsal view.  
 Fig. 1 a. Ditto. Anal somite, from below.  
 Fig. 1 b. Ditto. Anal somite, from the side.  
 Fig. 1 c. Ditto. Femur of anal leg, from inner side.  
 Fig. 1 d. Ditto. Stigma of third somite.  
 Fig. 2. *Pithopus inermis*, sp. n. Head, dorsal view.  
 Fig. 2 a. Ditto. Anal somite, from below.  
 Fig. 2 b. Ditto. Anal somite from the side.  
 Fig. 2 c. Ditto. Femur of anal leg, from inner side.  
 Fig. 2 d. Ditto. Stigma of third somite.  
 Fig. 2 e. *Pithopus calcaratus*, sp. n. Tarso-metatarsus of twentieth somite.  
 Fig. 3. *Pseudocryptops Walkeri*, gen. et sp. nov. Head, dorsal view.  
 Fig. 3 a. Ditto. Anal somite, from below.  
 Fig. 3 b. Ditto. Anal somite, from the side.  
 Fig. 3 c. Ditto. Stigma of third somite.

## BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE.

*The Birds of Norfolk.* By HENRY STEVENSON, F.L.S.; continued by THOMAS SOUTHWELL, F.Z.S. 3 vols., 8vo. Norwich and London, 1866-90.

HOWEVER it is to be accounted for, the fact remains that in no county of England has natural history been more assiduously, and therefore more successfully, cultivated than in Norfolk. The assiduity is a point on which we would especially dwell, since we live in days when what passes for work is knocked off as though speed were its only test and the quality of the "output" a matter beneath the notice of the modern biologist. But it has yet to be proved that what is known in another branch of art as "jerry-building" will pay in the end when applied to authorship; and from our own point of view, perhaps rather antiquated, we are inclined to say that it will not. We seem to have heard not so very long ago of a heaven-sent genius, who, having applied himself (except when he was otherwise engaged) for a couple of years to a line of study entirely new to him—it was a portion of the anatomy of a particular class of the animal kingdom—was at the end of that time enabled to set the subject in a wholly different light! That he did so we can readily believe; but we might put beside it the fact that other men, who had received no spiritual commission and were perhaps only plodding slaves of the scalpel, had employed themselves on the same inquiries ten or even twenty times as long, and yet had failed to arrive at conclusions they would feel warranted in laying before the

scientific public—possibly through excessive modesty, possibly through entertaining a higher opinion of the perception of that scientific public for recognizing the bad and the ridiculous. Now it appears from the memoir given of the author of the work before us that he laboured continuously for the ten years from 1853 to 1863 before he trusted himself to write out a short account of each of the species which he had to include in his intended book. These short accounts formed the basis of the several articles, but were greatly expanded and in most cases entirely rewritten before they were given to the world. This process took him three years longer with regard to those contained in his first volume, which was published late in 1866, for we are told that so great was Mr. Stevenson's desire for accuracy and completeness that in some cases even sheets which had been printed off were cancelled in favour of others with more correct or more recent information. The final preparation of the second volume, containing matters of far greater interest than the first, occupied nearly four years more, and then he began the third and concluding one—but unfortunately ill health supervened, and, after making desultory progress from time to time, actual work upon it may be said to have been discontinued in 1877, when, to the despair not only of Norfolk naturalists, but of all who had become acquainted with the first two volumes, there seemed little or no chance of its ever being completed, though it was known that a considerable portion had been printed off and that the author was continually adding to his notes. Eleven years later he was removed by death, after long and acute suffering; and then, to the marvellous credit of the county concerned, it proved to possess in Mr. Southwell an ornithologist, already tried we may remark, certainly not inferior essentially to Mr. Stevenson, and therefore fully capable of completing the unfinished work—

*Primo avulso non deficit alter—*

and, moreover, of continuing it in almost exactly the same style, the difference observable being slight. There was certainly much of the newspaper-writer about Mr. Stevenson, which rendered him somewhat careless of the extent of his articles, whereas Mr. Southwell, possibly constrained by considerations of space, has carefully compressed all he has to say, though what he says is just as happily expressed. He had of course his predecessor's notes, or more than notes, to guide him; but his own assiduity in filling up the blank spaces between them and in collecting additional information is evident, and consequently we have the whole work in a fashion that should satisfy the most exacting critic.

Among the many local ornithologies that have now appeared the present decidedly holds, and most likely will long hold, the first place; and the reason is doubtless due to the thorough acquaintance of the original author and his successor with all that relates to their subject. They not only knew the birds of which they treat and the ground they haunt, but the men who have been most conversant with them. Norfolk, like every other part of this island, has its

extinct species—extinct, that is, within its limits—and respecting these species it would seem as if no scrap of intelligence has been overlooked, and every clue that offered followed, until the account may be called exhaustive. The value of the information thus given is manifest now, and will year by year increase as an historic record. Yet alongside of the extermination or rarification of many species may be set the consoling fact that there are others which have a happier fate, and, as Mr. Southwell is able to declare, occur and actually breed more numerous in Norfolk than heretofore—a result that in the case of the Gadwall, the Shoveler, the Pochard, and the Tufted Duck he does not hesitate to ascribe to recent legislation in establishing a close time during which the lives of these and many more should be safe. But of the vanished or vanishing species the number must be far larger. The Pelican and the Crane ceased as inhabitants before the time of contemporary records, but the existence of the Cormorant is testified by documentary evidence. The Bustard, as all know, has been banished from this county, its last stronghold in England, and the story of its banishment is told by Mr. Stevenson as it was never told before; while Mr. Southwell adds an hardly less interesting appendix to it in recounting an attempt, unique in the annals of British ornithology, but unfortunately frustrated by the weather and thus unsuccessful, to induce a fine male that appeared in 1876 to prolong his stay and take to himself a wife, provided by Lord Lilford's thoughtfulness. The Avoset and the Godwit are also gone, and the Ruff survives, it is believed, but in one locality; while those delights of the seaside, the Terns, have only a few remaining haunts, about which Mr. Southwell is discreetly vague, since no birds are more exposed to persecution or have everywhere more rapidly decreased in numbers around our coasts, so as to be threatened with extinction.

Space fails us to enter as we should wish on many other merits of this meritorious work. Seldom can it have been that the place of an author dying with an incomplete book on hand has been so satisfactorily supplied; and greatly indebted as all British ornithologists are known to be to Mr. Stevenson, Mr. Southwell's labours demand, and if we are not much mistaken will receive, no small portion of their gratitude. Let us add that this concluding volume is not only illustrated, but really embellished, by three unpublished plates by Mr. Wolf—a rare thing to see in these days—and one of them, representing the home of the Black-headed Gull on Scoulton Mere, is a picture which must charm anyone with an eye to the beauties of nature.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

*Stray Notes on the Nomenclature &c. of some British Starfishes.*

By F. JEFFREY BELL.

In making a critical revision of the names to be applied to our British Starfishes I have made some slight observations which may be worth publishing.